

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 EB-07 MC-02 XMB-02 CIAE-00

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EXIMBANK FOR TUTINO

USDOC FOR BIC/OED COHEN

ROME FOR RCAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, BENC, EAIR, EFIN, GR

SUBJECT: OLYMPIC PURCHASE OF NEW TWINJET AIRCRAFT

REF: ATHENS 1487

1. AT LEAST TWO ATHENS NEWSPAPERS REPORTED TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS FINALLY DECIDED ON THE PURCHASE OF BOEING AIRCRAFT FOR OLYMPIC AIRWAYS. ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR SPOKE TO OLYMPIC BOARD CHAIRMAN THEOPHANOUS, WHO CONFIRMED THAT IT WAS NOW DEFINITE THAT BOEING WAS SELECTED, BUT NOT AS REPORTED IN THE PRESS. ACCORDING TO THEOPHANOUS, THE COMMITTEE OF ECONOMIC MINISTERS, CHAIRED BY COORDINATION MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS, LAST NIGHT EXAMINED THE ENTIRE CASE, INCLUDING THE UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION OF THE AIRCRAFT EVALUATION COMMITTEE FOR BOEING AND THE COMPLAINT OF UNFAIR TREATMENT BY BAC. THE MINISTERS DECIDED THAT THE SELECTION PROCESS HAD BEEN A FAIR AND COMPLETE ONE, AND THAT IT

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WAS NOW UP TO THE OLYMPIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS, RATHER

THAN THE GOG, TO MAKE THE ACTUAL CHOICE. THE MINISTERS
FURTHER DECIDED THAT THE GOG WOULD GUARANTEE FINANCING
OF THE AIRCRAFT.

2. BY THIS MEANS, THE GOG APPEARS TO HAVE EXTRICATED
ITSELF FROM THE ACTUAL SELECTION, ACTING MERELY IN A
SUPERVISORY ROLE TO ASSURE THAT THE EXAMINATION OF
THE ALTERNATIVES WAS CORRECT AND FAIR. PART OF THE
RATIONALE TO BE OFFERED FOR THIS PROCEDURE, ACCORDING
TO THEOPHANOUS, IS THAT THE GOG WANTS OLYMPIC TO CONTINUE
TO FUNCTION AS A QUASI-INDEPENDENT AGENCY RATHER THAN
AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE GOVERNMENT. THEOPHANOUS
ADDED THAT OLYMPIC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS WOULD MEET
TODAY OR TOMORROW AND FORMALLY SELECT BOEING. THEOPHANOUS
ASKED FOR THE TIME BEING TO TREAT THIS BACKGROUND
INFORMATION CONFIDENTIALLY, PENDING FORMAL ANNOUNCE-
MENT BY THE GOG AND/OR OLYMPIC.

3. LOCAL BOEING REPRESENTATIVE TODAY RECEIVED
SIMILAR ASSURANCES OF SELECTION FROM HIS OWN SOURCES.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 19 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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